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SAN FRANCISCO  
GAY MAN ACCUSES CIA OF SEX DISCRIMINATION  
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-- A GAY ENGINEER FILED A SEX DISCRIMINATION  
SUIT AGAINST PRESIDENT REAGAN AND THE CIA, CLAIMING HIS APPLICATION  
FOR A SECURITY CLEARANCE GOT THE BUREAUCRATIC RUNAROUND BECAUSE OF  
HIS SEXUAL PREFERENCE.

STAT

RICHARD GAYER, AN ATTORNEY WHO IS A GAY RIGHTS ACTIVIST, WORKS FOR  
STE-SYLVANIA, A GOVERNMENT CONTRACTOR IN SILICON VALLEY SOUTH OF SAN  
FRANCISCO. HE ASKED THE FEDERAL COURT ON WEDNESDAY TO ORDER THE CIA  
TO EITHER GRANT OR DENY HIS APPLICATION, AND TO EXPLAIN ITS REASONING  
IF IT IS DENIED.

HE SOUGHT NO MONEY DAMAGES.

GAYER SAID THE CIA HAS AN "INTERNAL POLICY OF DENYING SECURITY  
CLEARANCES TO ALL PERSONS IT BELIEVES TO BE GAY," A POLICY  
ACKNOWLEDGED BY CIA SPOKESMAN DALE PETERSON LATER IN THE DAY.

GAYER SAID THE CIA REFUSED TO ACT ON HIS AUGUST 1982, APPLICATION  
FOR A "NEED-TO-KNOW" SECURITY CLEARANCE AFTER IT LEARNED HE WAS A  
HOMOSEXUAL RIGHTS ACTIVIST.

HE SAID LACK OF THE CLEARANCE, NEEDED TO PERFORM HIS JOB, MEANS HE  
IS LIKELY TO BE FIRED WITHIN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

"GAYER HAS BEEN BRANDED AS UNABLE TO OBTAIN THIS SPECIAL TYPE OF  
SECURITY CLEARANCE AND IS IN JEOPARDY OF BEING LAID OFF FROM HIS  
EMPLOYMENT AS AN ELECTRONICS ENGINEER," GAYER WROTE IN PAPERS FILED  
WITH THE COURT.

HE ACCUSED THE CIA OF ENTANGLING HIS APPLICATION IN A ROLL OF RED  
TAPE IN AN EFFORT TO GET HIM FIRED.

HE SAID HIS EMPLOYER, WHO FILED THE APPLICATION FOR HIM AND HIS  
CO-WORKERS, WAS COERCED INTO WITHDRAWING GAYER'S APPLICATION.

THE APPLICATIONS OF HIS CO-WORKERS, ALL HETEROSEXUAL, WERE GRANTED  
WITHIN FOUR WEEKS, HE SAID.

CIA SPOKESMAN PETERSON TOLD UPI BY PHONE FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.  
THAT FOREIGN AGENTS OFTEN TARGET HOMOSEXUALS AS SUSCEPTIBLE TO  
BLACKMAIL AND IDENTIFIED HOMOSEXUAL CONDUCT AS A FACTOR IN A  
SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF ESPIONAGE CASES.

PETERSON SAID HIS ORGANIZATION'S POLICY STATES THAT "SEXUAL  
CONDUCT CAN BE A RELEVANT CONSIDERATION IN CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH THE  
CONDUCT REFLECTS UPON THE INDIVIDUAL'S STABILITY, INDICATES A  
PERSONALITY DISORDER OR COULD RESULT IN EXPOSING THE INDIVIDUAL TO  
DIRECT OR INDIRECT PRESSURE BECAUSE OF SUSCEPTIBILITY TO UNLAWFUL  
INFLUENCE, DURESS, BLACKMAIL OR COERCION."